MONDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1883.

Amusements To-day

Read-my of Tunio-At a SP N.
Read-my of Design Art Loss Extinction.
Etjon Opera Bouse Orpose and Expeller. S
Casion - The Beggar Joint SP. N.
Do yn Benter been involviblet. SP N. En y a hentre seven senty-light y P M.

Er nd O, e-n House-Jouries y M.

El ha Dimn Husen - 128 Howery

Maveriy a Camedy thenty - La Pille & Man. Augst.

Hadroon Nquare Thentre-The Resid. a 12 M.

Hit Hore's thentre-Hadroon His Second Laye. S P.

New Park Thentre-Parion's Slave. F P. M.

Navelty Thentre-Markoon Humpty Dumpty. S P. Chlora Garden The Pavements of Paris, a P. M. Pennie's Thentre The Two Dysham, a P. M.

People's Thratte. The Two Orphans. S.P. M.
Park Thratter, Brenktyn. The Power of Money. S.P.
Star Thratter, Marketh. S.P. M.
Fheater Comique. Cordelia's Aspirations. S.P. M.
Fhalia Thratter. Verspreichen Hiederin Ricci. s.P. M.
Fany Pastor's Theater. Verbity. S.P. M.

Union Square Theatre-Storm Scates . F. M. Wallack's Theatre-An American Wife. . F. M. 6d Av. Theatre—Three eta Kind. s.P. M. 6th Av. Theatre—The Dism of Pasition, s.P. M. 14th at. Theatre—In Parador. s.P. M.

Ordinary Advertisements, per Agate line....... 80 40 Large type or cuts (Agate measurement) per line... 0 80 Buriness Notices, before marriages and deaths, per Special Notices after marriages and deaths, per line Reading Notices, with "Adv.," 1st or 2d page, per line 2 50 In Sunday edition same rates as above.

WENELT, 50 cents a line; no extra charge for large type. Preferred positions from 75 cents to \$2.

The regular circulation of THE SUN for the week ending Dec. 29, 1883, was: 

Total for the week. 941,110

## Living Issues.

In his recent letter to the Albany Army Mr. ABRAM S. HEWITT declares that the question of the tariff is "the only living issue between the two great political parties which divide the country."

If this be so, if there is no other living

issue, why is Mr. HEWITT a Democrat and not a Republican?

According to his own statement he is in favor of import duties imposed for the sake of protection, and so are the Republicans. They may differ about details, as when the tariff of 1883 fixed rates of duty upon iron and steel rods, which, as we believe, Mr. HEWITT thought altogether too low; but as to the fundamental question. Shall duties be protective? there is no difference between them, no issue whatever by which they are separated.

So far as we understand it. Mr. HEWTER really holds the opinion of Mr. RANDALL, Mr. Converse, Mr. WARNER, and the majority of Democrats, that duties should be so salculated as to afford protection while providing revenue; but in its essence and its results, this opinion is just the same as that of the majority of Republicans. There may be a theoretical variance among them as to the constitutional authority for the imposition of duties, but it is only an abstraction. Practically they all agree that there shall be protection. Some want more of it some want less, but they all want it; and Mr. HEWITT

tells us that he wants it too. Thus there is no living issue in this thing, If we take Mr. HEWITT's starting point. If Nwe admit protection at all, we shall not quar-

el much over a little more or a little less of it. But between free trade and protection Pthere is a living issue. So there is between a tariff for revenue only and a tariff with moderate or incidental protection, or whatever phrasemongers and demagogues may please to call it. But between Mr. HEWITT's sort of protection and that of the tariff of 1883 there is no living issue whatever, no sontroversy of principle, but only a controversy of expediency and of details.

We would respectfully advise the distinguished representative of the Tenth district to meditate with some seriousness about politics quite apart from all theories of revenue and of taxation. Perhaps he may come to the conclusion that there are other matters to be dealt with by statesmen besides the tariff, and that Democracy is not yet so played out, so exhausted of principle, and so destitute of character and purpose as in the heat of composition he has been led to \$299,000 I can pass our bill, but I represent it. If there is no living issue but the tariff, what a misfortune it would be for Democratic aspirants for the Presidency if it should be disposed of by this session of Congress. In that event the Democracy would have no reason for continued existence, and the party would have to dissolve. Every living issue having disappeared, there would be no occasion for running a Democratic candidate in 1884, and the only question would be whether we should Support ARTHUR, BLAINE, OF GRESHAM.

# A Great Field for Retrenchment.

It may be expected with confidence that Mr. RANDALL'S Committee on Appropria tions will apply the axe of reform vigorous ly to the estimates from the different depart ments. Deducting the difference in the pension account, the estimates for 1885 exceed the estimates for the current fiscal year by nearly \$23,000,000, and they exceed the actual appropriations for the same time by \$24,250,000.

The officeholders knew the composition and intentions of the present House of Representatives, and therefore they made large margins for reductions, expecting by this expedient to save some of the cherished sinecures and some of the opportunities for spollation from the impending retrenchment by a Democratic House.

They are likely to be disappointed. The Administration of Gen. GRANT resorted to similar tactics in 1875, and the experiment failed signally, although every possible obstruction was thrown in the way of economy Proper information was refused, or was so distorted as to be useless. When the Approriations Committee in that Congress disovered their intention to thwart the popular will, they adopted a general scale of reduction and saved thirty millions the first year. without disturbing the public service in the

I Since then offices have been multiplied without a color of justification, and mainly or partisan purposes. The Blue Book for his year will show about one hundred and

aty-five thousand persons on the regular ils. These lists do not include laborers mechanics, and many others employed temporarily, who are concealed under general heads of appropriations, and who make a small army in themselves. Thousands of hem are discovered every year in the navy wils and in other public institutions when

n day comes around. your thousand persons are employed in internal revenue service. These could aspensed with, even if the excise taxes o be continued, by adopting a system of Tops and checks. The revenue officers he been a constant source of trouble. Intigation has established the fact that me of them make a business of setting un

stills in remote places in order to gain the large fee allowed by law to informers. In his last report, the Secretary of the

Treasury says: "There are necless customs districts, and nothing but local pride or interest will disagree therefrom. There are twenty two ports of entry at which not a dollar of duty has been collected for years, at different times There are thirty two ports of entry in which the year's betton's from all sources have not equalled the year expenses.

There can be no hesitation about abolishing these offices, which have been maintained for years merely as sinceures, and at large cost to the Treasury. There are many other offices, some attached to the two Houses of Congress, that are quite superfluous and constitute a gross imposition on the Treasury.

It is nonsonse to say that at the last ses sion of the Forty-seventh Congress the Robesoman majority left no field for Democratic retrenchment and reform.

### Lifting a Corner of the Curtain.

The highly interesting letters which we printed on Saturday and yesterday were originally addressed to the late D. D. Cot-TON. Vice-President of the Southern Pacific Railroad Company, by Mr. C. P. HUNTING-TON, Vice-President and General Agent of the Central Pacific Railroad Company, and General Agent and Attorney at New York of the Southern Pacific.

It is well to bear in mind the fact that thes wo corporations were practically identical. The road south through California was an enterprise of the Central Pacific's. The Central Pacific magnates were the promoters of the Southern Pacific. They were striving to build and control from the West the new transcontinental line across the Southern pelt of States and Territories. At the same ime, Thomas A. Scott of Pennsylvania was pushing his Texas and Pacific line from Shreveport, Louisiana, to the West, with a Pacific terminus in view at San Diego. The interests of the Scorr systems were distinctly antagonistic to those represented by HUNTINGTON and COLTON. They met and clashed continually in a struggle at Vashington for the favorable organization f committees of Congress, the votes of Senaors and Representatives, the passage of legislation counting toward the ultimate control of the Southern system and the enjoyment of the enormous laud grants bestowed n the respective charters.

The relations of Mr. Jay Gov LD and the Inion Pacific to the Scott-Huntingron conest were rather peculiar. To the north, the Central Pacific and the Union Pacific were allies, and parts of the same line. To the south, the Central Pacific was fast constructing a line designed to compete with the GOULD system. GOULD, moreover, controlled the Pacific Mail line of steamers. Mr. HUNTINGTON'S letters show that he met with considerable difficulty in his dealings with the astute GOULD. "I think him." he writes to Colton, "the worst man to do anything

with I ever know." The dates of these extraordinary letters reach from 1874 to the middle of 1878, a period during which the contest at Washington was sharp indeed. Scott and Huntington were pitted against each other like two giants in the lobby, while the Congressmen over whose convictions their arguments or their cash had prevailed carried the battle into the committee rooms and on to the floor of both Houses. Nor did the struggie end there, It reached into the districts and into the State and Territorial Legislatures. Thus we find HUNTINGTON giving directions to Colton to beat Congressman LUTTRELL in his district, and he thinks it better, on the whole, "to beat him with a Democrat." He asks Colton if he "cannot have Safford Governor of Arizonal call the Legislature together and grant such charters as we want, at a cost, say, of \$25,000." He sends a man to Richmond on Saturday and to Albany the next Friday to get "anti-subsidy resolutions" passed by the Legislatures of Virginia and New York.

It was for the possession of Congressmen. however, that the main efforts of the rival railroad builders were expended. Mr. HUSTingron's contemptuous opinion of the average legislator at Washington is expressed in the frankest language. "The coming session," he writes in the fall of 1874, "will be composed of the hungriest set of men that ever got together, and the devil only knows what they will do." In January, 1876, he writes, "I believe that with take it that it is not worth that much to us." "Scorr," he reports, a fortnight later, "is working mostly among the commercial men. He switched Senator Spencer of Alabama and WALKER of Virginia this week, but you know they can be switched back with the proper arrangements when they are wanted." In March, 1877, he "stayed in Washington two days to fix up the Senate Railroad Committee." In November, 1877, his observations at the National Capitol made it seem to him as if "all the strikers in the world were there." A month later he reports that "Gould has large amounts of cash, and pays it without stint to carry his The ruling rate for Congressmen in May, 1878, is quoted as follows: "The Texas Pacific folks offered one member of Congress \$1,000 cash down, \$5,000 when the bill passed, and \$10,000 of the bonds when they got them."

Nor is Mr. C. P. Huntington less candid or less cynical in his way of speaking of individuals in Congress and in other branches of the public service. Here are a few of the most interesting of his epithets and brief

character sketches: The Fraudulent President .- "This man Haves." Honace F. Page of California .- " Always right." JOHN K. LUTTRELL of California .- " A wild hog."

with whom it is not safe to talk openly."
WILLIAM A. Piran of Chilfornia.—" D—d hog." GILBERT C WALKER of Virginia .- "Slippery fellow Don't trust him much

Jons P. Jones of Nevada .- "A small gun compared Errice Sangant of California .- " Worth as much as any six newsmen."

PETER D. Wiggiston of Wisconsin.—"A good follow.

SINON B. CONOVER of Florida .- "A clever fellow, but len't go money on lam." "He may want to horrow some

Jone A. Kasson of Iowa .- "Our friend in Congress and he has never lost us a dollar."

John H. Mitthell of Oregon.—"Is not for us as h was, aithough he says he is." was, although he says he is." "Goven went to Washing-ton about two weeks since, and, I know, saw Mitchell."

The value of this correspondence to the public lies in the fact that it was written in perfect sincerity, and without the least idea that it would ever fall under other eyes than those for which it was intended. Like the memorandum book of OAKES AMES, the diary of J. J. NEWELL, and the secret corruption list of the Kansas Pacific managers, it was designed exclusively for private information. Nobody will suppose for an instant that HUNTINGTON was misleading his friend and business partner, either in regard to his own doings at Washington or in regard to those of his adversary. Scorr. When such documents reach the public, either by accident or through the puarrels of old associates and the chances of litigation, the cause of honest Government | is the final determination of a case, while the is the gainer. If these letters, in an incidental way, reveal so much, what could not Mr Hunringron tell if he was subjected to

rigid cross-examination at the hands of cometent investigators?

There is a vast amount of truth and philosophy in the plaintive remark of Gen. Colrox's interesting correspondent, "If these damned interviewers would keep out of the way, it would be much easier travelling."

### The Adirondack Porests.

The special Senate committee appointed by the last Legislature to investigate the question of the purchase of the Adirondack forests by the State, are not, if the brief telegraphic reports from Albany can be trusted, in favor of any further State netion in the premises. The sentiment of the committee upon this subject has been known for several months, and we have already pointed out that their recommendations, if carried into effect, could not accomplish the desired resuits: that unless the State could control the whole wilderness, and guard it from indiseriminate lumbering operations, the forests were doomed to certain and speedy destruction, and that the ruin of the Eric Canal and the Hudson River must be the inevitable results of such short-sighted policy.

The committee give, always supposing that they are correctly reported by the telegraph, as a reason why further State interference is not needed to preserve the Adirondack forests, that "all valuable soft timber near the streams has already been cut away, and what remains is a dense forest, absolutely unmarketable because it is impossible to reach a sufficient stream. The trees are all on hillsides, some distance from the waterways, but they serve all needed purposes."

If this means anything, it means that all the trees which it is profitable to cut have already been converted into lumber, and that as there can be no more lumbering in the wilderness, on account of the expense attending it, the forests are safe without further action by the State.

In reality, at no time has there been greater netivity in lumber operations in the North Woods than during the present winter. Logs are being cut along streams in the very heart of the wilderness: the forest is invaded from every direction, and at this writing it is falling along some of the steepest and most remote slopes of the highest range of the Adirondack Mountains.

It is safe to assert that there is no timber growing in any part of the wilderness so remote from streams that it cannot be profitably marketed by the aid of water flumes and the other mechanical contrivances perfeetly familiar to all lumbermen.

The argument of the committee that the State is already acquiring the land as fast as possible is not new. It means that as fast as the land is stripped of its forest covering, and readered worthless for all purposes, it is allowed to revert to the State, that the owners may avoid paying taxes. Such land, as we have already pointed out, is without present value for storing the water supply of our rivers. In many cases it has been utterly destroyed, as far as any future forest growth is concerned, by frequent burning. The committee boasts that ten years ago the State owned 40,000 acres, and that to-day its holding is nearly one million acres. This means that the forest has been stripped from nearly a million acres in the last ten years. At this rate the entire Adirondack forest will have disappeared in a very short time. The State will then find itself in possession of the whole region. There will be no forest there then. however, the Hudson River will be ruined, and the State's possession will be without value of any sort. The committee fear that the purchase of the Adirondack forests by the State would give rise to a gigantic job, and that owners would in this way be able to secure fabulous prices for their lands. There will no doubt be room for a job, and a very big one, in a scheme of the nature proposed. There always is room for a job in all public works when not administered honestly and intelligently. It is absurd to suppose, however, that five men endowed with sufficient ability, honesty, and public spirit to acquire and manage this property cannot be found in the State of New York. It is equally absurd to suppose that the people of the State are going to allow the destruction of the Adirondack forests and the waterways of the State because a Senate committee has allowed itself to be hoodwinked by the plausible talk of a lot of interested parties who are using every effort to prevent the preservation of the North Woods. There is too much at stake.

# A Few Figures.

The three Democratic members of the Committee of Ways and Means from the Northern States are Morrison of Illinois. HURD of Ohio, and HEWITT of New York.

On a protectionist platform GARPHELD in 1880 carried Illinois against HANCOCK on a platform for revenue only by 49.716. Obioby 34,227, and New York by 21,033, making an aggregate majority in these States of 95,976 This was a change against the Democrats of 101 571 in these three States alone as compared with the vote they east in 1876, when Mr. TILDEN was the caudidate.

In searching into this change it will not be forgotten that in the last month or two of the Hancock campaign the tariff question played a prominent part in the contest.

However, it is not to be supposed that facts and figures like these can after the purpose of the majority of the Ways and Means Committee to report a tariff bill in accord with the doctrines which they have avowed on this subject.

If they are statesmen to whom party success is nothing, their one idea of free trade everything; if they are willing to crush the Democracy in 1884 in order to "crystallize a policy" with which they think success may be achieved in some future period, there is no doubt of their ability to accomplish their

purpose. But are they, after all, coming back to the conservative position of SAM RANDALL and the politics of THE SUN? Who knows?

How to Relieve the Court of Appeals The fact that the Court of Appeals has not disposed of all the cases on its calendar this year has drawn public attention to the necessity of legislation to facilitate the disposi-

tion of business in that tribunal. We do not think that any radical changes are necessary in order to afford the requisite relief. There is no need of enlarging the court, nor do we think it necessary or expedient to create a special Commission to dispose of the cases in arrears. So far as judgments are concerned, the jurisdiction of the Court of Appeals is limited to the review of cases in which the amount involved is at least \$500, and it has been proposed to increase this minimum limit to \$1,000 or even a larger amount. But we do not regard this proposition with favor. The benefits of review by the Court of Appeals should not be confined to rich suitors.

A practicable and conservative remedy to begin with, at any rate, would be to restrict or abolish altogether the right to appeal to the Court of Appeals from mere orders as distinguished from judgments. A judgment orders to which we refer are written directions of the Court made from time to time in the course of the litigation, which do not finally

dispose of the matters in controversy on the merits. Under the existing practice many of these orders are appealable from the General Terms of the Supreme Court and of the superior city courts to the Court of Appeals, and that tribunal is compelled to devote a great deal of time to hearing and deciding

such appeals. We think the right to appeal to the Court of Appeals from such orders might advantageously be abolished. The objection will be made that an order frequently involves all the legal questions upon which a case depends, and that it is often a great advantage to litigants to have such questions disposed of before going through a long and expensive trial. To meet this objection, the law might permit such appeals whenever allowed by the flat of one of the Judges of the Court of Appeals itself. Such a provision would enable that tribunal to determine precisely what jurisdiction it would and would not exercise in the case of orders, and would probably keep out of the court nine-tenths of such appeals from orders as are now carried there. The additional time thus gained for the more important work of reviewing judgments would certainly be considerable, and if the time as these present a Canadian winter in anything allotted to counsel for argument were lessenbut a forbidding light. ed to an hour and a half on each side, instead of being two hours, as at present, the Court of Appeals ought to be able to clear its calendar every year.

## Congress and the Canal Diggers.

Our neighbor, the Herald, has information that the Nicaragua Canal scheme has been defeated in three sessions of Congress by the secret obstructive force of great railroad corporations."

Is that so? We thought the canal guaranee project had failed up to date because legislation involving subsidies, grants of money, and loans of the public credit has be come so decidedly unpopular of late years that even the boldest of River and Harbor statesmen are careful how they touch it.

Our neighbor, the Herald, also expresse the opinion that "Congress could do no more statesmanlike act than to appropriate money to build the canal on Government account. Does the Herald believe that? We have

thought at times that our neighbor possesses common sense.

Canal diggers from various parts of this and other countries will give the present Congress plenty to do, if it manifests any willingness to listen to their seductive tales The Nicaragua Isthmus Canal ought not to be undertaken by the Government, either directly or indirectly, until the Hennepin waterway has been successfully completed. The Hennepin Canal ought not to be allowed to divert the attention of Congress an instant from the vigorous prosecution of the Great Kanawha enterprise. Not a cent more should be spent on the Great Kanawha until the Government has dug a short cut across Cape Cod. Even the Cape Cod Canal should be compelled to wait until the Florida peninsula has been severed from the mainland. The Florida Canal should be last in the order of coustructing Secretary CHANDLER'S system of interior coast waterways from Marblehead to the Gulf of Mexico. Finally, it will be advisable to delay even the preliminary work apon the CHANDLER canals until the costly inprovements upon Cheesequakes Creek have been far enough advanced to permit a fleet of steel cruisers to steam up into the very heart of New Jersey.

Then, and not till then, should sensible and honest statesmen in Congress begin to give ear to the canal diggers. Let us proceed

systematically, if at all. One of the great soldiers of the civil war disappears in the death of Gen. HUMPHREYS, whose mortal remains are to be interred at Washington to-day. Others were more conspicuous and gained a brighter harvest of renown, but not one among them all possessed a higher intelligence, a more fertile mind, a steadier courage, or a superior genius in the conflict HUMPHREYS had not been friendly to the election of Mr. Lincoln; but when the choice had to be made between his political prejudices and the preservation of the Union he did not hesitate; and during the long and bloody struggle the people of the United States had no more resolute, no more efficient defender. Though in the last decisive years of the contest he held no independent comnand, but was only chief of staff in the Army of the Potomac, those who best knew the value of his services have always rated him as one of the very ablest and noblest of our military officers. Had the war been much longer protracted we are sure that he would ave occupied the most important stations, and risen to the very highest distinction. Though bred to engineering, a branch of warfare which tends to disqualify for the command of a campaign or the conduct of battle, he was distinguished for bold, aggressive energy and for a spirit as prompt, ingenious, and fearless in the crisis of combat as it was calm, wise, and

comprehensive in strategetical preparations. In the relations of civil life Gen. HUMPHERYS was true, cordial, and manly. He wrote the English language with singular strength and felicity. His great book on the Mississippi River and his writings concerning the history of the war are models of compact, vigorous, and conclusive composition.

A surprising advertisement appears in vesterday's Herald:

W. M. E. -This sifence is unendurable. What a novelty! How has it happened? He was never known to be silent before,

To-morrow morning will witness the reirement of many lions and unicorns from British advertising service. The great number of copies of the royal arms now to be seen over shops in the streets, and on all sorts of wares, often leads the traveller to fancy that a arge part of the population of Great Britain consists of court tradesmen. The explanation given is that all sorts of queer pretexts, even such as paying a tax to the Government on patent medicines, have led people to blazon out this beraldic zoology on their property. An act passed by Parliament checks this ambition:

"Any person who without the authority of her Majorty or any of the rayal family or of any lovernment department. Assume sor mees in connection with any trans, business, rating, or profession, the rayal arms or name so nearly recentling the same." In such a manner as to be calculated to lead other persons to their vehicles the same to the rayal manner as to be calculated to lead other persons to their vehicles the is carrying on his trade, instinct, calling, or profession, by or under such authority as aforesaid, shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding £2.

This act will undoubtedly bring the signboards, labels, and wrappers of many trades-men to the democratic level. But the new law cannot prevent G. WASHINGTON CHILDS, A. M. an American citizen, from naming his country seat after the country seat of the Duke of BUCKINGHAM, or from displaying the ducal arms, if he chooses to.

The latest plan in Egyptian affairs, that to fix the southern boundary of Egypt at the fifteenth degree of north intitude and to covenant with Abyssinia for maintaining the southerly Red Sea ports under the authority of the Khe dive, contemplates the practical surrender at least of the part of the Soudan already occu-pled by Et Mandi. The fifteenth parallel runs forty or fifty miles south of Khartoum, which would thus remain, if possible, under Egyptian ontrol. But the experiment of hiring Abyssinia to protect Massowah, Suakim, and the etween them, in the Khediye's interest, might be rather a dangerous one. Abrasinis went to war with Egypt not many years ago in large part for the possession of Massowah, as

she was shut up behind her mountains without a single port of her own on the Red Sea. With her troops once garrisoning the Red Sea border in this region, the Khediye might find

it hard to get rid of them.

On the strength of the success of last January's ice carnival at Montreal there is to be another. Some Canadiaris suggest that such an exhibition, after all brings the coldness of the country into undue prominence, to the terror of European emigrants. That, however, is a narrow and superficial view of the matter. These sports, on the contrary, impress the stranger with the fact that midwinter itself, presumably the most inclement and dreaded season in Canada, is the time of the greatest gayety and enjoyment. To have shown what pleasure can be had in that latitude during the heats of July would have been small encouragement for immigration; but the scenes of a January carnival, with its prodigious ice palace gittering under electric lights, its toboganning on the hills, its curling bonspiel at the rink, its snow-shoe steeple chases by day and torchlight processions by night, its skating matches, racing in sleighs, games of hookey and quadrilles on the frozen river, not to speak of its regular railroad trains running across the St. Lawrence upon ice ten feet thick-such spectacles

Gov. HAMILTON of Illinois says that a visible boom for Logan has begun in the West, or at least in the State of Illinois, and that the younger Republicans prefer the great warrior scholar to Auturn or BLAINE, Gov HAMILron's chief authority for this interesting statement seems to be the fact that the Republican Convention is to meet in Chicago. He doesn't know of any "organized effort" to make Logan the centre of the Illinois people's hope, but he thinks that Illinois seems "inclined to unite upon him as the most available candidate.' So we are really left as much in the dark as ever, and it doesn't appear whether the Illinois Senator is a dark horse or a favorite or whether the Illinois folks really mean to

But there is plenty of time yet, and Logan is an industrious person, who will boom himself if there is nobody also to boom him. We hope that he will try his luck in the Convention, if he can, and, if he is beaten, he should write a book, like Brother BLAINE.

A dark and sanguinary deed was brought to light at Joliet, Ill., on Friday. A trail of blood was discovered. It led from a hole in the ice in a canal to a distant suburb. The excited inhabtants of Joliet followed the trail through its horrible course. Murder most foul had evidently been committed. By whom? Detectives shook their heads, but formed mysterious theories. The public excitement grew intense. and it became evident that the assassin, if found, could expect but a short shrift and a strong cord. But would be be discovered? He was, in spite of the detectives. His conscience mote him and he confessed. A plain, farmer ike man he seemed, ill fitted for such pittless avagery. He admitted shooting several vicims and "dragging their bodies over the snow." The victims were geese. So were the Joliet people, and so ends the Hunting of the Goose.

Among the bills introduced into the House of Representatives during the present session is the following:

"To pay First Lieut Frank P Gross, U. S. A., for property tost by the burning of his quarters at Fort Clark, Texts, on or about the 18th day of April, 1888, without fault or neglect on his part; provided that no allowance be made for any property except what was useful, necessary, and proper for such an officer while in quarters, engaged in the public service, or exceeding in amount the sum of \$2,000."

The fire at Fort Clark occurred nearly fifteen years ago: yet we find the bill for reimbursing Lieut, Gross now before Congress. One difficulty in the matter seems to have been that of determining exactly what property is useful necessary, and proper for a Lieutenant. His schedule of loss, as presented to former Congresses, included a very large wardrobe for a wife and child and an extensive housekeeping outfit. Nevertheless, a bill of this sort ought to be disposed of, one way or the other, before the twentieth century, as already thousands of copies of it and of the various reports upon it have been printed at the expense of the

The gallery of the New Park Theatre has a large seating capacity. It is the part of the rived. The exits are inadequate.

Government.

SAVE THE FORESTS.

The Right and Duty of the State to Acquire the Astrondack Lands. From the Utien Observer.

Enough argument to fill several volumes has been published to show the imperious necessity of taking suitable steps at once to protect the Highlands—and yet it is probable that a strong sentiment hostile to the project will be developed in the Legislature. Some of its opponents are stoutly arguing that the scheme of preservation has been designed in the interest of sport-ing habitues of the woods. This protest is absurd, because the vast tructs of forest might be steadily subsected for a generation to the inroads of the present de struyers without losing their attractiveness to the hunter and fisherman. But, savegards the relation of the forest to the water supply which feeds our rivers and canala, prevention cannot be begun too soon, so long as it is clearly understood that disaster will be oth

woodlands is outlined by Senators Lynde and F. Lan sing, who constitute a majority of the Committee on the Adirondack Forest Preservation. Lynde is from St. Lawrence county and Lausing from Jefferson. Their constituencies were opposed to the free canal amend ment last fall, and it may be that the same sentiment of antipathy to a movement started by the cities actuate them at prevent. The Senators named agree in stating that any proposition to purchase the necessary fores lands will be the result of a tremendous job. clare that the very arritation of the question of purchase by the State has already increased the prire of wooded land by an enormous sum, and if any such project should become a fact the price would be \$100 an acremuch larger sum than is paid for any farming lands in that region. A strange inconsistency in the argument of the Senators is apparent when they declare further that the State is already acquiring land through non payment of taxes. It stands to reason that the sauspirit of speculation which would prompt one set of owners to advance the price of their property, in antici-pation of State purchase, would naturally induce the

other to pay their taxes and avoid forfeiture. But the Legislature should not be intimidated by the pretence that jobbers and speculators are interested. The State can exercise its right to acquire land for pubic purposes at a reasonable cost. Even a corporati that lays its tracks through private property can appeal to the Court for a just apprisal of the value of the in tended purchase. The State, although it contemplates to hardships to individuals, is supreme. In the case of the Adirondacks, public prosperity and safely are de-pendent upon stern and just legislative action. Land speculators and owners would be entitled to their due, and no more, should the Legislature approve the Adirondack project.

A Scapegoat Wanted-Will It be Browster Cameron !

WASHINGTON, Doc. 29 .- The Department of Justice will certainly be investigated. The instruc-tions which the House, immediately on reassembling will give the committee will not lack comprehensive ness, nor will the committee itself be wanting in real. Concern is manifested in certain circles jest the inquir develop a scandal of unexpected proportions. Search is already making for a scapegont. The Department of Justice has close relations with every other department and with the head of the Government. Those with th Treasury Department are constant and intimate. The inquiry will necessarily go outside of the walls of hir Brewster's office, though it is not questioned that enough will be found there to employ the committee during considerable part of the session.

Let the Alcohol Committee Go to Portland From the Philadelphia Record.

On motion of Mr. Reed of Maine the House has complicantly agreed to raise a special committee to investigate the traffic in alcoholic figures. Mr. Roed's committee will also inquire into the question whether is in the power of Congress to pass laws for the restrain and probibition of the liquor traite of the United State. This is an interesting question. The committee could gather a great deal of information in regard to the feasi bility of prohibition by holding a few sessions in Port land, Baugor, and other towns of Maine. THE ADIRONDACKS

The Constitution Covers the Whole Ground. ALBANY, Dec. 29 .- To preserve the Hudson River and its tributaries, and to supply the Pele and some other canals with water, it may become necessary for the State not only to retain all the land it now owns in the Adirondack region, but to acquire other lands which belong to individuals or corporations. Indeed, to make sure of the main object, the State may e compelled to obtain title to a large amount

of land of the latter description. It has been alleged that this will involve the expenditure of a vast sum of money, and that the mere fact that the State appears in the field as a purchaser of lands in the North Woods will advance the price to such extravagant rates that the people will not consent to the consummation of any scheme of this sort. Indeed, it is reported that speculators in Adirondack lands have aiready eaught this Adirondack lands have already caught this idea, and are expecting to make a fortune out of the State if the incoming Legislature au-thorizes the purchase of lands there on a large

of the State if the incoming Legislature authorizes the purchase of lands there on a large scale,

There is no need for the slightest alarm on this question. The Constitution has settled it. It provides that private property can be taken for public use on making just compensation to the owners. This has always been the rule in New York under all its Constitutions, and it has been acted upon over and over again. The only three points in issue in such cases are: First—Is this private property? Secondly—Is it taken for the use of the public? Thirdly—What it is a just compensation for it?

It is under this provision that radironds get their lands and that highways are laid out. Much more closely does the rule apply in the particular case in hand. It is the State itself that will step in to acquire lands to preserve the navigation of its rivers and canals.

All the lands, therefore, which the State wants in the Adirondack country for the purposes named it can take on paying a fair price for them. And this price can be ascertained, as in other analogous cases, by Commissioners or by the courts or by juries—all to be provided for by proper legislation. If everything is conducted prudently, there is no danger that the State will be swindled in obtaining all the land it needs for the great objects in view.

AN ENGLISH BACHELOR'S CHARITY. Who Mane a Numb and Mane a Swata Bless with doy the Name of Raine.

From the London Telegraph. In the year 1719 Henry Raine, a wealthy

In the year 1719 Henry Raine, a wealthy brewer, and a parishioner of St. George's-in-the-East, determined to do something sound and practical for the parish in which he had been born, and where he had acquired his great wealth and prosperity. The simple words of this fine old gentieman's will show the spirit that animated his pious intention:

Wherous it has pleased Almighty God, from a small beginning to raise me to a plentiful fortune, and to enable me to assist my relations, who, by God's blossing on their endeavors no longer need my assistance, I think it my duty, in gratitude to God and obedience to the precepts of Christian charity, to settle part of my substance for charitable uses. He proceeded to do so as follows: First of all he erected a pile of buildings, which may be seen to this day in Charles street, Old Gravol lane, to be used as a free school for fifty boys and fifty girls of the parish of St. George's-In-the-East. Attached to the schools were residences for the master and mistress. Inserted in the facade were models of the schools were residences for the master and mistress. Inserted in the facade were models of the schools were residences for the master and mistress. Inserted in the facade were models of the schools were residences for the master and mistress. Inserted in the facade were models of the schools were residences for the master and mistress. Inserted in the facade were models of the schools were residences for the master and mistress. Inserted in the facade were models of the schools were residenced to the set of the parish of St. George's precept, expressed in very simple words. Come in and learn your duty to God and Man." He was an old bachelor, and he determined to keep unmarried so that he might do what he could for his relatives and never humper the one idea of his life. But the great idea of Henry Raine, which has been nerpetuated to this very day, was the setting apart of a certain sum for marriage portions, to be awarded by lot to certain of the girls who had attained the parishioners and all the trustees attend the service, when a special sermon is preached by a selected preacher, and the marriage of last year's lucky ones is duly solemnized. Directly after the marriage service the governors, trustees, and their friends repair to the old hall in Baine's school, where the drawing for the marriage portion takes place. It is conducted exactly according to a programme drawn out by the founder.

The lottery tickets are scaled up strictly ac-The lottery tickets are scaled up strictly according to pieus injunction, they are put into the very canister that Henry Itaine selected himself, and the ceremonial table, a splendid piece of furniture, is liame's own gift. Hymns are sung and voluntaries played during the drawing of the lots, speeches are made both to the successful and unsuccessful cardidates, and the tucky vooring woman is duly congratulated and warned for wedding the next 1st of May. The drawing over, the wedding banquet these place, at which the marriage portion is handed to the young woman who had been married that very morning. It is significant, in connection with this wedding banquet, that so long as 159 years ago the old founder almost anticipated the historical appetite of the "voracious vestryman." for he decreed that on the day of the wedding a almost anticipated the historical appetite of the voracious vestryman, for he decreed that on the day of the wedding a dinner should be previded for the bride and bridegroom and their friends, but that the governors and friends of the foundation should also dine together, but at their own expense. The first ode sung annually at the wedding feast is very quaint and characteristic. It calls on the 'Spirit of Love, who in the days of old didst move thy servant to previde this goodly help to virtue's cause, shed on our hearts thy grace, and all us to fulfil the plans of Raine's munificence! and further the following quarant is chanted:

And when long years have come and gone.

And when long years have come and gone, still shall the work of good go on: And many a symph and many a swaln Shall bless with by the name of Raine.

Shall bless with joy the name of Rame.

A purse of 100 golden sovereigns is then handed to the bride, and, after more hymns and odes according to the liaine ritual, "the newly-married coule and their friends rottre."

Unfortunately, the full and best intentions of old Henry Rame were never carried out. Living and dying unmarried, he left all his property to his two nephews, and in his will he strictly enjoined them to invest 21,000 in the three per cents in order to give a marriago pertion and a wedding breakfast to two girs instead of one. His dying request to the two nephews who lind inherited his plentiful stock and his trade in brewing is very touching. He had no earthly doubt that the said William Duffin and William Wilson would fuffit his dying request. H. If, said he, "my nephews had seen, as I have, six poor innocent maids come trembling to draw the prize, and the fortunate until that got it burst out in tears with excess trembling to draw the prize, and the fortunate maid that got it burst out in tears with excess of joy, they would readily perform the same. Alast for the faith of this excellent uncle. The nephews undutfully winked at his sentiment, and satisfied their conscience in some other way. Anyhow, the C4.000 were never invested, and so 8t, Goorge's in-the-East can only send out one endowed maiden into the world every year instead of two.

The Bankfulness of Chicago Young Men. From the Inter-Ocean The matrimonial advantages of Chicago, like its business facilities, cannot be overestimated, but there are many young men of means enough to handsomely support a wife who, for reasons of their own, presumably basifulness in most cases, have not embraced the lovely opportunities offered.

The Pinest Scalakin Ulater in St. Louis. From the Globe Democrat. Mrs. Dr. Pearman has the handsomest scal-skin pleter in the city, close fitting, and reaching to the nem of her dress.

How Will It Jump! There is wishing here, and wondering there.
A portion of hope, and a bit of despair,
And some are fretting, and some don't care. And some are cursing and tearing their hair And all of them wonder when and where

The free trade cart its load will dump, And how the free trade cat will jump. The brand new Congress cancus machine, As good of its kind as ever was seen, Has milled its ore remarkably clean, fith stamps, tail race, amalgam, and screen

But no bystander was half so green As to say it worked with no jett or bump When the free trade cut prepared to jump Will it jump at the new moon, or wait for the full? Whose face will it scratch? Whose hair wi Will it prove a bear or become a buil? Will it fall upon iron, or drop upon woul? Will its teeth and claws he sharp or dult When down it comes with a terrible thum And the free trade cat has made its jump?

Republicans watch with greenish eyes. Prepared to raise the old campaign cries And start again the old campaign lies, e others question and vainly surmis And doubt and wonder, with smiles and sigh If the truth will be manifest, plain and plump. When the free trade cat is ready to jump.

SUNDEAMS.

-In the Queen's Bench lately it was held hat marriage with a niece of a deceased wife is illegal.

They were about to bury a grandchild of Gen. Turner of Memphis, when some one instited that it should be bathed and slapped on the back. It is now

alive and doing well. -W. W. Allen of Watervilet, Mich., impressed with the permissioners of tobacco, stopped using it, and burned in the street his large stock of to-

-Dwight M. Sabin of Minnesota, the new Chairman of the Republican National Committee, is said to have an income of \$10,000 a year, derived mainly from prison contracts. ... The cellars under Philadelphia's new

City that are the targest in America, their area being 45 acres. The tirst collar is thirteen feet deep, and the cellar under that is of like depth. -The four highest points in the Empire State, aside from the monotains, are: Pabius, Onondage county, 2,020 feet above mean tide; East Hill, United

States Coast Servey, 2,031; Babcock, Schobaric county 2,117; and Sammit, Schobaric county, 2,428. -Lord Craven, just deceased, who was do voted to coursing, gave a greyhound the extraordinary name of Checkabendalcadamareear, and one of the coursing writers ruggested in fun that his lordship mushave fallen across the name when he was drunk.

—Mr. Alma Tadema denies that he ar

ranged Mary Anderson's dress as Guisten. He was not even present at the stage rehearsal. She was dressed, he says, from the design of Mr. Frank D. Millet, the New York painter. He thinks the impression of the precmore Parisian than Athenian.

—The War Cry, the official gazette of Gen

Booth's Salvation Army is published in English, French, Swedish, and several other languages. They sent out last year 230,000,000 copies, and 885 000 worth of annical Instruments, uniforms, and budges. The grand army comprises 630 corps, 130 of which are abroad.

Mr. Burt, the English M. P. who has been recently visiting the mining districts of this country, writes that the wages of workings connected with the iron trade is \$2.50 a day, and of ordinary laborers from

\$1.25 to \$1.50 but that work is irregular. Trades unions are not strong, and cooperation, which has taken such deep root among the collers in England, does not flour--Count Vasili, who has resumed his letters in the Novembe Revue, describes Count Mothe as old, dry, and tacitum, and rather 'green' at the ago of four score.

a cold, impassive man, incapable of duing good to any me, having never in the course of his long life either one or been under an obligation to any body. -Mr. Parnell's movements have been always wrapped in much mystery. He is seldom in Ire-land, and there are not more than half a dozen to whom his London residence is known. His suiden disappear ance from the scene in the midst of more than one great crisis occasioned some reflection, and for some while preceding his recent triumphant appearance in Dublin his Cork constituents could not hear from him or ascer-

-After the alarmed bystanders had almost frozen their fingers in reacuing an inciriate who had fallen overboard from a wharf in Baltimore, he took up a collection, and with the 70 cents that he got he sidled off to the nearest barroom. A merchant who had been a quiet spectator said. "This makes the fifth time that fellow has fallen into the water this month. I fancy it's his last resort when he wants money to get a drink, as he always takes up a collection afterward." -Nerve and presence of mind saved John

H. Feldkamp's life. He is a cutter in a Cincunsti cloth-ing store. While he was operating a machine a spring broke, and as he reached to pick up a detached piece, his long beard was caught and rapidly wound into the machinery, which threatened to draw in his head and crush it. Instantly he threw out his arms and braces them against the frame of the cutter, and thus he stood until his beard had been pulled out by the roots and a part of his check had been torn off, exposing the gum of -It has been said that because cattle some-

his lower inw. times prefer impure water to pure drinking water no pains should be taken to supply them with pure water The British Medical Journal explains to agriculturists that the reason for this fact is that cattle when given tank water are not kept properly supplied with rock salt. In their desire for saline food animals will drink the most impure fields, and will even eat earth. The writer thinks it both injudicious and cruel to deprive

cattle of sail, and thus compel them to seck it in refuse -At Leeds lately Mr. Arthur Nicols delivered a lecture on "Snakes and Snake Charming," in which he gave an instance of the appearance of thesea serpent which occurred in his own experience. It turned out to be the body of a dead whale, around which were collected thousands of gulls and albatrosses, and which simulated the shape and form of a monster with a nane and long tail. It is a pity that every master of a ressel from which the sea serpent is seen has not courage enough to steer close to it, so that its real nature

may be made evident -It is pitiable to us to read of the way in which the engines were sent to the recent fire which consumed the Chamber of Representatives in Brussels It was not until half an hour after the tre broke out that a steam fire engine was despatched with a ringle horse to the scene of conflagration. Ten men were sunt with it to push behind. As they tolled along assistance was secured in the shape of a co of the two horses and ten men the engine reached the

-M. Girard, director of the Paris Must. rical Laboratory, says that the chemical knowledge applied to the concoction of spurious foods and drinks is of a very high order, and would suffice to make the for tunes of the adulterators a dozen times over, if applied in an ionest capacity. The matter which scene to have aroused him of iste is a peculiarly ingenious thing in gooseberry jolly. It appears that the article is made entirely of seaweed. The coloring matter is fuel since and the flavor is given by a compound of acetic chier, tartaric acid, aldehyde, and countille. Inspectors often recognize it from the fact that it is "a little more ele-

gant than the genuine article." -The Copland system of asphaltic wood pavement, introduced in London, is claimed to meet some of the most important requirements for the pur-pose which have hitherto been unfuffilled, and, though nore costly at first than some other methods of roadway construction, its durability and satisfactory wear me then meet that point. The advantage of surplicity is at once presented, namely, a bed of concrete, with a layer asphalt over it, upon which are laid transverse courses of red pine blocks, with intermediate spaces; these spaces are filled in parily with heated mastic aspinit, and then with coarse lime and gravel grout, dushed with hot air, to the surface of the roadway. Finally, about an inch of rough gravel is spread over the whole and left to be worked in and compacted by

the ordinary effect of traffic -A prisoner in the State prison of California tells the Sau Francisco Call that money win buy whatever the convicts may want, and bint whiskeyselling is a literative trade in the prison. He adds "The men who have been convicted of the highest crimes are always the most popular over there among the prisoners, and the officials too, and if they have com as well, there's no end of favor shown 'em. Just take Black Bart' as a sample. He sticks up stage roaches singlehanded. You newspaper gents give him whole columns for a send off. He blows his own trumpet, and struts around as a swell highwayman. The prisoners at Sau Quentin look at him with a wish that they'd gone in for the same his game, and the officers of the prison gather him in as a pet hamb, and approint him right off at the start as bead man of the hambley where he gets lets of pickings, where he sits around in a private office, and has his meals wooked by his own Chinaman one of the prisoners, of course on his private stove."

The project of flooding the Sahara, and

thus opening up Central Africa to commerce and civili-cation appears to be reviving—the opinion still being arged by geographers and engineers that, if the water of the ocean could thus be let into that desert, the climate, the soil, and the samilary condition would all be im-proved. Though nearly two thirds as large as Europe, and containing some two hundred million inhabitants. the only means of communication with the rest of the world lies in the caravan iracks. In the Sahara deser-there is a remarkable depression covering an area of about 60,000 miles this depressed portion being known about 60.000 miles this depressed portion being known as Elijat, and said to extend from within twelve miles of the senshore to regions in the close neighborhood of Timination. The theory of both ancient and modern geograph as has been that Elijuf was originally filled with water which flowed this the ocean, but that, a bar having gradually formed at the entrance, the flow in-ward was stopped, and the heat of a vertical sun caused the inside water to evaporate. The practicability of reopening this ancient channel is the great questi

Tramp life, as actually enjoyed by a man who was once a business man in New York, was described to a Hocky Mountain News reporter. The tramp's father, a New York State farmer, sent the boy to New York. fork city, where he went into business. Some years later the young man married his partner's wife's sister. The partner absconded with the firm's means: the tramp that is fell in love with no actress and ran away with her; then his wife and children died and his father was bankrupted and the son went to Chicago, but could not get employment. He pushed on to Leadville and got a job, but lead it and then transped to Denver, and there resolved to do no more work, work being, it his view, elavery, lie said "I don't often ask for money, I've got clothes, and I get my beard, robody gets much more. My philosophy is, Ben't worry, don't frei.' What have I to get how spirited about! I get the air. that's free and the water that's free and enting?-well, I live I usually carry about \$20 in my power You can't wag a man with \$20 as a visible means of support, I don't drouble myberly I don't druk, and I never sheal anything. The points never trouble me, and I usually flud some place to sleep,"